

Special Medical Services

Family Support Services



SMS is New Hampshire's Title V program for Children with Special Health care needs. It administers health programs and services for children birth to 21, who have, or are at risk for a chronic medical condition, disability or special health care need. SMS provides leadership in building and promoting community based systems of care and services that is family centered, comprehensive, coordinated and culturally competent.

Call 1-800-852-3345 x 4488

or 271-4488

Visit

<https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dcbcs/bds/sms/>



State of New Hampshire
Department of Health and Human Services
129 Pleasant Street, Thayer Building
Concord, NH 03301



What is Family Support?

Family Support is a wide range of services and activities that assist families in developing and maximizing their ability to care for individuals with disabilities. Regional Area Agencies provide services that focus on a family's own strengths and abilities to support being successful in their own community. Regional Family Support Councils, comprised of family members or individuals, serve as advisory bodies to each Area Agency.

How does Family Support help you, your child and your family?

- Focuses on the entire family while respecting and maximizing your family's approach to making decisions about the provisions of supports and services
- Creates and emphasizes opportunities for your family to build relationships in your community
- Identifies resources, supports and services that are flexible, individualized, and responsive to the changing needs of your family
- Promotes family involvement in all levels of planning, policy making and monitoring of the service system
- Provides access to respite care, environmental modifications, and other services
- Promotes inclusive social and recreational opportunities
- Provides community outreach, education and development to promote understanding and support for you, your child and your family
- Offers other supports and services that assist families in providing care for the individual member in the family home

What is the eligibility criterion?

Families that have either

- An individual member who is under the age of 2 who is eligible for family-centered early supports and services, OR
- An individual member, age 3 or older, who has a developmental disability or acquired brain disorder